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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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EXAMINER

ALAM, SHAHID AL

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2162

DATE MAILED: 10/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/654,541

Applicant(s)

NWABUEZE, E. KENNETH

Examiner

Shahid Al Alam

Art Unit

2172

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 7-15 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 6 and 16 - 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-5 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This application is a divisional Application of 09/810,676.
2. Claims 1 – 18 are pending in this Office action.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 1 and 16 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claims 1 and 16, after the limitation “verifying the integrity of acquired raw data”, there needs an “and”.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claims 1, 6 and 16 – 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by the Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter “APA”).

With respect to claims 1 and 16, APA teaches acquiring and transforming data for business analysis (page 1, lines 16 – 20), comprising:

identifying a set of data sources to be accessed for a user (page 1, lines 22 – 24 and page 2, lines 1 – 6);

loading raw data from each of the accessed set of data sources to raw data type specific locations (page 2, lines 2 – 4);

verifying the integrity of acquired raw data (page 2, lines 6 – 7); and

transforming the acquired raw data of each of the raw data type specific locations to a uniform data type, the transformed acquired raw data stored as processed data into processed data type specific locations (page 2, lines 13 – 22).

As to claim 6, transferring the raw data type specific locations to a temporary database (page 2, lines 8 – 22)

As to claim 17, the acquired raw data is stored in a network attached storage location (page 1, lines 21 – 24; APA).

As to claim 18, the acquired raw data is associated to a unique identification defining a customer and source path for the acquired raw data (page 1, lines 19 – 24; APA).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA.

With respect to claim 2, APA teaches a method for acquiring and transforming data for business analysis. APA does not explicitly teach compressing and uncompressing a file as claimed.

However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use compressed and uncompress a file for the purpose of efficient transmission.

As to claim 3, opening the file and ensuring that expected data is inside each open file (page 3, lines 2 – 4; APA).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 4 and 5 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggests transforming the acquired raw data of each of the raw data type specific locations to a uniform data type further comprises performing a memory map transfer using format rules.

7. Claims 7 – 12 and 13 – 15 are allowed over the prior art of record.

Regarding claims 7 and 13, Applicants' claimed invention of "identifying a set of data sources to be accessed . . . loading raw data from each of the accessed set of data sources . . . verifying the integrity . . . transforming the acquired raw data . . . converting each of the acquired raw data to a uniform format . . . transferring the converted raw data . . . applying processing rules to the converted raw data . . . storing the processed data . . . transferring the processed data to a temporary database" combined with "applying display rules, the display rules being configured to define a format and content of a requested report." would not have been obvious over, nor would have been fairly suggested by the prior art of record.


The dependent claims, being definite, further limiting, and fully enabled by the specification are also allowed.

Contact Information

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shahid Al Alam whose telephone number is (571) 272-4030. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:00 A.M.- 4:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Shahid Al Alam
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2172

15 October 2004